

ARMY OF 140,000 WAR HEADS' AIM

Swift Reduction Contemplated
by Department, Congress
Committee Learns.

NO UNIVERSAL TRAINING

Republicans Will Decide Fu-
ture Military Policy of
United States.

Special Despatch to THE SUN.
WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—A standing army of about the same size as before the war is contemplated by the War Department, according to information reaching members of the House Military Committee and the House Appropriations Committee. The War Department has not yet disclosed its plans for next year in full, but sufficient information has come to these House members to gain a fair knowledge of the plans of the Secretary of War.

The national defence act of 1916 authorized an army on a peace basis of 140,000 men, to be expanded in time of war to 175,000. When this country entered the war the standing army strength actually was 90,000.

Appropriations are being asked on the basis of an average army of 600,000 during the fiscal year beginning July 1 next. This fact has been misleading, as at first it appeared that the War Department planned to maintain an army of that size. This, it was pointed out to-day, is not the case. It is the average number of soldiers the War Department estimates must be cared for during the next fiscal year. The only interpretation of this possible, members of the Military Committee pointed out to-day, is that there will be considerably more than that many soldiers unarmored on July 1 next and considerably less than that number a year later.

No Hint of Universal Training.
On the basis of the War Department estimates it is virtually certain now that the War Department will not recommend the institution of a universal military training and service plan. No money is being asked for such a system and no hint has come from the War Department that it is in contemplation at all.

The formation of an after-war policy for the army rests to a large extent with the Republicans on account of the coming change in control of the Senate and House and therefore of the military committees of the two branches of Congress. This will not preclude a determined effort to secure universal training during this session, Senator Chamberlain (Oregon), the present chairman of the Senate Military Committee, is a strong advocate of the system.

Kahn to Consult Pershing.

Representative Kahn (California), who will be chairman of the House Military Committee next session, it was learned to-day, intends to go to France immediately after the close of the present session and seek the views of Gen. Pershing and other American commanders on the proper military policy to pursue. That his plan will include universal training is known, of course, but it is the application of the policy and the details of it on which Mr. Kahn will seek expert military advice based on the lessons of the war.

Universal training, Mr. Kahn pointed out, will not preclude the necessity of a small professional army. In addition to the training of yearly increments of youths under the universal training plan this professional army would be needed to garrison the Philippines, to maintain the usual two battalions in China, to garrison the Alaskan posts and forts, the posts in the United States and to take care of the Panama Canal zone.

An army of 125,000 men, Mr. Kahn estimated roughly, would be sufficient for these purposes.

40 GOVERNORS MEET TO DISCUSS POLICIES

Cabinet Members to Attend
Conference at Annapolis.

ANNAPOLIS, Dec. 15.—Members of President Wilson's Cabinet and the executive heads of nearly forty States, will gather here to-morrow morning for the tenth annual conference of Governors, which will continue three days. Important questions looking to the framing of policies of reconstruction and readjustment of conditions arising out of the war will receive attention.

Gov. Harrington, who will act as official host in behalf of Maryland, will open the conference with an address of welcome and the response will be by Gov. Manning of South Carolina. To-morrow night the executives will be the honor guests at a reception to be given at the Executive Mansion.

Cabinet heads who are expected to participate are Secretary Daniels of the Navy, Secretary Baker of the War Department, Secretary Houston of Agriculture, Secretary Lane of the Interior and Secretary Wilson of Labor.

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CONGRESS IS FACING MANY HEAVY TASKS

Congestion of Legislation
Marks Third Week.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Congress to-morrow begins the third week of its new session with the usual pre-holiday congestion of legislation. The Senate will resume work on the most important sections of the war revenue bill, while appropriation measures will occupy most of the time of the House. At the same time committees of both houses will be unusually active with hearings and investigations.

The moot question of Government control or ownership of utilities is pressing to the front in both branches of Congress, but few leaders expect definite legislation on the subject at this session. The Senate Interstate Commerce Committee will meet Thursday to consider procedure with railroad legislation, including Director-General McAdoo's recommendation for extension of Government control to January 1, 1919. Investigation of the railroad situation probably after the holidays and by the existing Senate and House committees is expected. Hearings on Secretary Daniels's bill for permanent Government ownership of radio lines will be resumed next Tuesday by the House Merchant Marine Committee, which will hear opposition arguments from the Marconi and other interests. The Administration measure proposing permanent Government ownership of telegraph, telephone and cable lines probably will not be considered by the House committee until after the holidays.

SUFFS PLAN BONFIRE IN CAPITAL TO-DAY

Will Burn Wilson's Words Regarding Suffrage Opposite White House.

Special Despatch to THE SUN.
WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Frustrated some weeks ago in their effort to build a bonfire in the United States Senate chamber, where it had been their intention to burn the words of President Wilson regarding woman suffrage, the National Woman's party has determined to hold the bonfire to-morrow in Lafayette Square, opposite the empty White House.

The resolution followed a three day conference by the whole party organization. It is the argument of the leaders that the bonfire constitutes a visible protest against "the inconsistency of the President in working for democracy in Europe and permitting its defeat in America."

Major Raymond Pullman, Chief of Police, tonight refused to divulge the plans of the police for handling the situation which Miss Alice Paul and her following will create. The absence of the President from Washington removes in part the incidental bitterness of the affair.

On a previous occasion before the President's plea in the Senate for passage of the constitutional amendment resolution the so-called militants burned several sheets of paper inscribed with the words of Mr. Wilson while fifty persons watched them curiously. To-morrow's performance is to be far more spectacular. The big conference of militants just coming to an end will furnish a crowd and the possible interference of the police adds to the interest.

A mass meeting was held at the National Theatre to-day, at which a fund of \$50,000 was subscribed for the spread of the gospel of equal suffrage in the anti-suffrage States. Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont presided and contributed \$1,000 and the New York State organization gave \$25,000 in a lump.

Special contributions were also taken up to be expended in bringing pressure to bear on Senators Moses (N. H.), Beckham (Ky.), Smith (S. C.) and Borah (Idaho). From one of these four holdouts Senators the final vote must come if suffrage is to win.

GOLDEN BOOK FULL OF BRAZEN BOASTS

Germans Sound Glory of Fatherland in Subscribing to War Charity.

AMERICANS ARE IN LIST

Kaiser Called "Best and Noblest Prince of All History" by Brooklyn Man.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Words of fervent love for the fatherland and fervent expressions of confidence that Germany's soldiers soon would vanquish the "jealous boastings of the enemy" were written on the pages of the "Golden Book of German War Orphans," presented as evidence to the Senate committee investigating German propaganda by Capt. George B. Lester of the army intelligence service.

The ornate volume contained the autographs of hundreds of American citizens—most of them born in Germany and some of them prominent—who donated funds for German war orphans in the winter of 1916 and the spring of 1917, soon after diplomatic relations between the United States and Germany had been broken.

"To my beloved old German fatherland, mighty Germany," read one inscription signed by Leopold Zimmerman, New York, October 19, 1916, in connection with a donation of \$1,000. "You may well vaunt that your sons are victors and that the jealous boastings of the enemy will soon be met by their merited end."

Wilhelm "Noblest Prince."

Another, which read "As a token of the beloved German fatherland and her great Kaiser, Wilhelm II, the best and noblest prince of all history, from a number of truly German thinking evangelical churches of the charge of Brooklyn—\$100," was signed by J. Dietz, 34 Prospect avenue, Brooklyn.

George Sylvester Viereck, editor of *Viereck's Weekly* and a leader in the German propaganda movement, wrote: "Good fortune and blessings for the noble work. May there be no blank page."

One page bore this: "Out of gratitude and love for the good old fatherland, the German Evangelical Reformed Church, the Kaiser Bell Church, \$100." It was signed by the Rev. Julius Jaeger, East Sixty-eighth street, New York city.

Another read: "As a token to our German hero brothers and as a mark of our highest admiration of them and their incomparable hero Kaiser, the German American committee in cooperation with the German Church of Elmhurst, N. Y., donates \$250."

Dr. Kampmann, in a prison camp at Fort Douglas, Utah, November 17, 1917, accompanied his donation with this explanation: "The last piece of money—I hid it in a stocking—shall be dedicated to the war orphans."

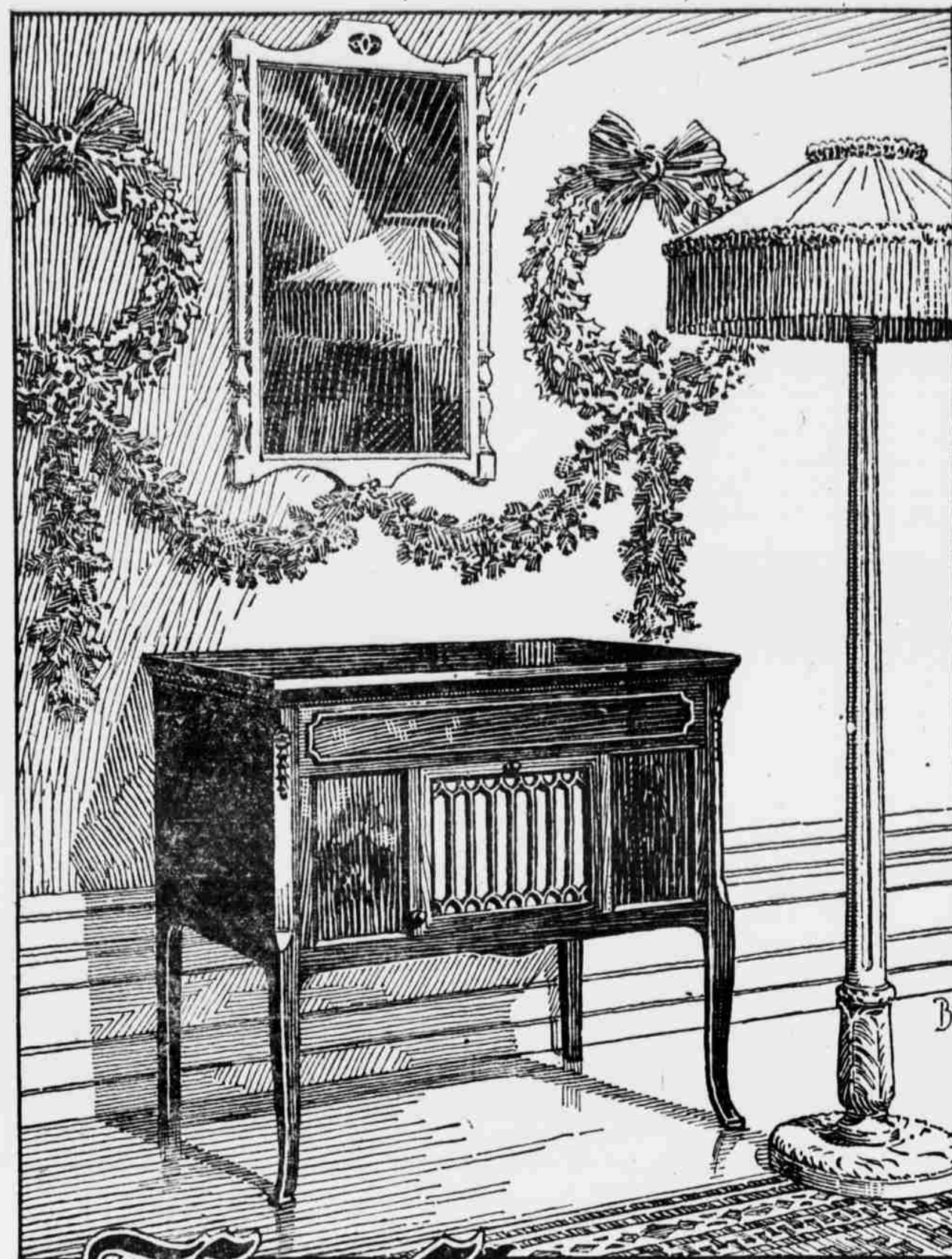
Seized by Army Agents.

The German Round Table at Kuebler's Roost, Reading, Pa., gave \$1,000, Christmas, 1916.

"So long as German bells ring from the Memel to the Rhine," ran an inscription by H. Urkischwerdt, "so long as the German sea breaks upon the Strand, so long, O German people, remember what your fathers created in a memorable monument to German glory."

The book bore an inscription on the title page to the German Empress, to whom it was to have been sent. Instead it was seized by army secret agents and now rests in the Senate committee's files. The committee decided not to make public most of the hundreds of names it contains, but a score or more were read into the public record. The hearings will be resumed Tuesday.

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